Mr. G. Narayana Aiyar: May I know the average number of students making use of the road?

Mr. K. Madhava Kurup: No such statistics have been taken.

Mr. G Narayana Aiyar: May I ask whether there are not paddy fields on both sides of the road and whether, therefore, the agriculturists also are not using the road?

Mr. K. Madhava Kurup: Yes, Sir.

Mr. G. Narayana Aiyar: Do those agriculturists have any other road for access to the main road?

Mr. K. Madhava Kurup: I do not know that. But it has been ascertained that considerable expenditure will have to be incurred for raising the embankment above flood level and for gravelling the road. That is the reason why it has not been done.

Mr. G. Narayana Aiyar: What is the expenditure involved?

Mr. K. Madhava Kurup: No estimate has been prepared. A distance of five furlongs has to be raised considerably. It is not known exactly to what height it will have to be raised in order to be above flood level. Several culverts, about 10 of them, between 12 and 18 feet in diameter, have also to be constructed.

Mr. G. Narayana Aiyar: Have the Government received representations about this road?

Mr. K. Madhava Kurup: Not recently.

Mr. G. Narayana Aiyar: With reference to part (*b*) may I know how long it is since the culverts have been in disrepair?

Mr. K. Madhava Kurup: They have been in such damaged condition for a long time. It is more or less an unimportant village road.

Mr. S. Piraviperumal Pillai (*Commerce and Industry South*): May I know the distance between that road and the nearest toll-gate?

Mr. K. Madhava Kurup: I claim notice.

Tests necessary for certain appointments in the Police and Excise Departments.

78 ***Mr. M. N. Parameswaran Pillai:** Will the Government be pleased to state:

(*a*) whether they consider physical fitness, height, girth, etc., as necessary tests for appointment in the executive line of the Police and Excise Departments;

(*b*) if so, whether these tests have been prescribed by the Public Service Commissioner for such appointments; and

(*c*) whether any appointment has been made in the Police and in the Excise Departments in disregard of these tests?

Rao Bahadur Rajyasevanirata Dr. N. Kunjan Pillai: (*a*) Yes, so far as the Police Department is concerned. In regard

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to the Excise Department, height and girth are considered necessary tests only for the recruitment of Petty Officers and Peons.

(*b*) Yes.

(*c*) No.

Mr. M. N. Paramesvaran Pillai: Are there Rules published by the Public Service Commissioner ?

Rao Bahadur Rajyasevanirata Dr. N. Kunjan Pillai: Schedule No. I of the Public Service Recruitment Rules contains the information.

Mr. E. P. Varghese: (*Nominated*): Have these rules been prescribed in consultation with the Police Commissioner ?

Rao Bahadur Rajyasevanirata Dr. N. Kunjan Pillai: The rules were framed by the Public Service Commissioner, and the Government sanctioned them.

Mr. E. P. Varghese: Was the Police Commissioner consulted?

Rao Bahadur Rajyasevanirata Dr. N. Kunjan Pillai: I think so.

Mr. E. P. Varghese: Now, are these appointments made direct by the Public Service Commissioner, or are they sent to the Police Commissioner for approval and final selection ?

Rao Bahadur Rajyasevanirata Dr. N. Kunjan Pillai: The Public Service Commissioner makes the recruitment in consultation with the Police Commissioner.

Mr. E. P. Varghese: If the Police Commissioner has once been consulted when the rules were framed, may I know why he should be again consulted when actual recruitment is made ?

Rao Bahadur Rajyasevanirata Dr. N. Kunjan Pillai: The Police Commissioner is the better judge of the fitness of men to be appointed in his department.

Help to newspapers.

79. ***Mr. J. John Kattakayam**: (*a*) Will the Government be pleased to state whether they subsidise any papers in or outside Travancore ?

(*b*) Will the Government be pleased to give a statement showing the number of copies subscribed by Government and the departments of the following papers :—the Hindu, the Madras Mail the Malayala Manorama, the Malayali, the Malayala Rajyam, the Kerala Kesari, the Bharatha Patrika, the Dakshina Bharathi, the Latin Christian, the Service, the Nazrani Deepika, the Nava Bharathi and the Chitradesom ?

Rao Bahadur Rajyasevanirata Dr. N. Kunjan Pillai: (*a*) No.

(*b*) A statement is laid on the table.

* *Vide* Appendix I—pages 332 and 333.

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